

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY****Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended): A method of collaborative voting, comprising:  
receiving a request for voter voting information prior to receiving a vote from a user, wherein receiving the request includes receiving a selection of one or more demographic voter categories for which voter voting information is to be provided prior to receiving a vote from the user;  
providing the requested voter voting information in an anonymous manner such that the identities of individual voters are not disclosed; and  
receiving a vote from the user based on the voter voting information provided.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended): The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the one or more voter categories are based on one or more of age, race, gender, income level, occupation, and political party affiliation.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended): The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the one or more demographic voter categories are based on voter affiliations with other voters.
6. (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein the voter affiliations with other voters are identified by a group identifier.
7. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes outputting the voter voting information in a graphical form on a display device.
8. (Currently Amended): The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing voter voting information for each of the one or more demographic voter categories selected.

9. (Currently Amended): The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing voter voting information for a combination of the one or more demographic voter categories selected.
10. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 8, wherein providing the requested voter voting information further includes providing voter voting information for a combination of the one or more demographic voter categories selected.
11. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing a dynamically updated display of the requested voter voting information.
12. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing voter comments entered by voters included in the voter voting information.
13. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the request for voter voting information includes a request for voter voting information for voters having similar demographic characteristics as a user that submitted the request.
14. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 13, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes:  
retrieving demographic characteristics for the user; and  
searching a voter database for voter entries corresponding to one or more of the demographic characteristics for the user.
15. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 13, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing a ranking of an amount of similarity between other voters' demographic characteristics and the user's demographic characteristics.
16. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a vote based on the voter voting information includes receiving an indication of whether the vote is permanent or non-final.
17. (Original): The method of claim 16, wherein if the vote is non-final, the vote may be changed within a predetermined period of time from when the vote was received.

18. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the voter voting information includes information regarding non-final votes and permanent votes cast by voters, and wherein providing the voter voting information includes providing non-final votes in a format different from permanent votes.
19. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
storing an indication of the vote in association with voter demographic characteristic information of the voter that submitted the vote.
20. (Original): The method of claim 19, wherein storing an indication of the vote further includes storing an indication of the status of the vote as being either non-final or permanent.
21. (Currently Amended): A computer program product in a computer readable medium for providing collaborative voting, comprising:  
first instructions for receiving a request for voter voting information prior to receiving a vote from a user, wherein receiving the request includes receiving a selection of one or more demographic voter categories for which voter voting information is to be provided prior to receiving a vote from the user;  
second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information in an anonymous manner such that the identities of individual voters are not disclosed; and  
third instructions for receiving a vote from the user based on the voter voting information provided.
22. (Canceled)
23. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim ~~[[22]]~~ 21, wherein the one or more voter categories are based on one or more of age, race, gender, income level, occupation, and political party affiliation.
24. (Canceled)
25. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim ~~[[22]]~~ 21, wherein the one or more demographic voter categories are based on voter affiliations with other voters.

26. (Original): The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the voter affiliations with other voters are identified by a group identifier.
27. (Original): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for outputting the voter voting information in a graphical form on a display device.
28. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim ~~[[22]]~~ 21, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing voter voting information for each of the one or more demographic voter categories selected.
29. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim ~~[[22]]~~ 21, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing voter voting information for a combination of the one or more demographic voter categories selected.
30. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information further include instructions for providing voter voting information for a combination of the one or more demographic voter categories selected.
31. (Original): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing a dynamically updated display of the requested voter voting information.
32. (Original): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing voter comments entered by voters included in the voter voting information.
33. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the request for voter voting information includes a request for voter voting information for voters having similar demographic characteristics as a user that submitted the request.

34. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include:  
instructions for retrieving demographic characteristics for the user; and  
instructions for searching a voter database for voter entries corresponding to one or more of the demographic characteristics for the user.
35. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing a ranking of an amount of similarity between other voters' demographic characteristics and the user's demographic characteristics.
36. (Original): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the third instructions for receiving a vote based on the voter voting information include instructions for receiving an indication of whether the vote is permanent or non-final.
37. (Original): The computer program product of claim 36, wherein if the vote is non-final, the vote may be changed within a predetermined period of time from when the vote was received.
38. (Original): The computer program product of 21, wherein the voter voting information includes information regarding non-final votes and permanent votes cast by voters, and wherein the second instructions for providing the voter voting information include instructions for providing non-final votes in a format different from permanent votes.
39. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim 21, further comprising:  
fourth instructions for storing an indication of the vote in association with voter demographic characteristic information of the voter that submitted the vote.
40. (Original): The computer program product of claim 39, wherein the fourth instructions for storing an indication of the vote further include instructions for storing an indication of the status of the vote as being either non-final or permanent.
41. (Currently Amended): An apparatus for providing collaborative voting, comprising:  
means for receiving a request for voter voting information prior to receiving a vote from a user.

wherein receiving the request includes receiving a selection of one or more demographic voter categories for which voter voting information is to be provided prior to receiving a vote from the user;

means for providing the requested voter voting information in an anonymous manner such that the identities of individual voters are not disclosed; and

means for receiving a vote from the user based on the voter voting information provided.

42. (Currently Amended): A method for providing collaborative voting, comprising:

a first interface through which a selection of one or more voter characteristics is received prior to receiving a vote from a user, wherein a search of voter voting information is performed based on the selection of one or more demographic voter characteristics; and

a second interface through which results of the search of voter voting information are provided in an anonymous manner such that the identities of individual voters are not disclosed.

43. (Original): The method of claim 42, wherein the first interface includes a field for entering a group identifier as one of the one or more voter characteristics.

44. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 42, wherein the first interface includes a field for selecting an option to find voter voting information for voters have demographic characteristics similar to a user of the first interface.

45. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 42, wherein the first interface includes a plurality of fields for selecting the one or more voter characteristics and a plurality of corresponding fields for selecting whether a voter having a corresponding one of the one or more demographic voter characteristics is to be included in the search results or not included in the search results.

46. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 42, wherein the second interface includes a portion for outputting results of the search of voter voting information for each of the one or more selected demographic voter characteristics.

47. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 46, wherein the second interface further includes a portion for outputting results of the search of voter voting information for a combination of the one or more selected demographic voter characteristics.

48. (Original): The method of claim 42, wherein the second interface is dynamically updated.
49. (Original): The method of claim 42, wherein the second interface includes a field for outputting individual voter profiles of voters included in the results of the search of voter voting information.
50. (Original): The method of claim 42, wherein the second interface includes a field for outputting comments submitted by individual voters included in the results of the search of the voter voting information.
51. (Original): The method of claim 42, further comprising a third interface through which a user may submit a vote, wherein when the user submits the vote, the second interface is updated.

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